



# RWANDA GREEN FUND

INVESTING IN A GREEN AND CLIMATE RESILIENT RWANDA

#GREENRWANDA | #INVESTINRWANDA



# RWANDA GREEN FUND

The Rwanda Green Fund is the country’s vehicle for mobilising and coordinating climate finance.

We also have a mandate to:

- ✓ Invest in public and private projects with the potential to create transformative change
- ✓ Create an ecosystem to incubate, accelerate and provide growth capital to high-impact green ventures
- ✓ Play a catalytic role to attract climate finance and green investments.

**+\$300M**

Mobilized for strategic climate resilience investments

**46**

INVESTMENTS

**31,000**

Hectares of watershed and water bodies protected

**47,000**

Hectares of forest and agroforestry coverage

**88,000**

Households provided with access to off-grid clean energy

**126,000**

Tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions avoided

**24,000**

Hectares of land protected against soil erosion

**170,000**

Green jobs created: 60 percent women and 40 percent men

## What adaptation challenge led you to choose the EDA window as the most suitable solution?

---

- ✓ The country's primary adaptation goal is to enhance the resilience of rural communities to climate change impacts, with a focus on priority interventions identified in the updated Rwanda Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC). These interventions aim to address risks associated with extreme weather events and slow-onset changes to agriculture and livelihoods.
- ✓ By cascading finance down to the local level, this project seeks to increase resilience and reduce the vulnerability of the target groups. Local organizations are better equipped to take direct action and develop the capacity for local solutions because of their local knowledge. The EDA funding will contribute to implementing activities around (i) sustainable land management for soil erosion control, (ii) water resources management, and (iii) climate-smart agriculture.

## What is the Climate Rationale for the project?

- ✓ Explaining the climate rationale for the Enhanced Direct Access (EDA) project posed a challenge, given that the specific interventions and locations had not yet been determined. The project aimed to address climate risks in all areas of Rwanda, but identifying a key theme proved difficult. To overcome this challenge, the proposal development team and stakeholders reviewed the list of priority adaptation interventions set out in Rwanda's updated NDC and focused on actions that target the most critical risks and vulnerabilities for rural households.

- The project proposal presents a strong argument for the climate-related reasons behind the
- ✓ initiative. It emphasizes the negative consequences of soil erosion, agricultural hazards, and water scarcity, especially for vulnerable communities, which are exacerbated by climate change. However, it was challenging to gather the necessary scientific data on the climate rationale due to the lack of long-term information from the past century, making it difficult to establish a reliable connection between climate change and its impacts.

**\$300+**  
**MILLION  
PER YEAR**

In 2018, climate related disasters cost Rwanda more than 200 million dollars in damage to property, crops, livestock and other losses - and the costs have since risen.



## What does the implementation procedure look like?

---

- ✓ The Rwanda Green Fund also knowns as the country's national fund for environment (FONERWA) will lead the implementation and management as the Executing Entity. The EDA AF Program will specifically targets grants to sub-national government and civil society organizations (CSOs) for local adaptation projects.
- ✓ FONERWA will issue a Call for Proposal for this project. This process involves two stages, the Project Profile Document (PPD, overview) and the Project Document (PD, full proposal) Throughout the process, FONERWA will act as the sole decision-maker and maintain open communication with all applicants and stakeholders, including the Ministry of Environment.

## More on implementation

---

- ✓ The Call for Proposal will be earmarked to the specific interventions this funding is aiming to support. The final decision for all projects to be supported is provided by the Board of Governance within FONERWA.
- ✓ In order to ensure that the financing is accessible to the most vulnerable communities, the grants will finance activities that will be executed by these local organizations, but they will involve direct support to vulnerable households. As an example, a CSO may support local farmers with agroforestry, by providing training and seedlings. Therefore the end beneficiaries will be the vulnerable households and communities.
- ✓ The Call will be earmarked these priority areas: climate-smart agriculture, sustainable water and land-management, targeting vulnerable rural communities and ecosystems.
- ✓ The finding envelope for eligible projects from CSOs will range between USD 100,000 – USD 250,000 and Local / District Government between USD 500,000 – USD 1,000,000, or combinations of these working together.

# What are the Environmental and Social Concerns?

---

- ✓ In order to ensure that all environmental and social concerns are fully addressed and integrated into funding proposals, the development of safeguard documents follows FONERWA's Environmental Social Management Framework (ESMF&RPF). The Environmental and Social risk screening of the projects at concept level (PPDs) is conducted to inform the required safeguard instruments that need to be developed once the project goes through to the full proposal development (PD). The E&S screening will classify the project in one of the 3 risk categories: Category A: High Risk, Category B: Medium Risk and Category C: Low Risk.
- ✓ Depending on the category the project was classified into, the required E&S tools are recommended (Eg. ESIA, ESMP or RAP in case the project triggers the displacement of people and properties). For this funding, only project under Category B and C will be funded. Category B and C projects focus on low to medium risk and are in line with the country's standards.



# Any additionality on Gender Mainstreaming?

---

- ✔ FONERWA has developed a Gender Mainstreaming Strategy, which emphasizes its commitment to incorporating gender-sensitive and gender-responsive approaches in its role as a 'Green fund' for public relations, as well as in its partnerships and participation in international and national events.
- ✔ The Gender Mainstreaming Strategy supports RGF in addressing gender-related challenges throughout the project lifecycle, from design to implementation, to ensure the sustainability and inclusiveness of project outcomes. As a result, applicants are required to conduct a gender assessment to identify gaps and issues in the project area and develop appropriate strategies to address these gaps.



# Capacity Enhancements

---

- ✓ The delivery package for the Call for Proposal includes capacity building and training activities to strengthen local actors' grant application skills, technical assistance support to enhance proposals and execution of grants for successful applicants, and guidance on all aspects of project and financial management, including reporting.
- ✓ Approximately 4.5% of the funds will be used for capacity building, proposal development support and training targeting CSOs and local government players.





**QUESTIONS?**